



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

June 30, 2021

Dear Superintendent/School Nurse:

I am writing to share the list of school districts required to report student weight status category information to the New York State Department of Health for the **2021-2022** school year and to make you aware of tools and guidance available to support the reporting process.

Pursuant to New York State Education Law Sections 903 and 904, each year a sample of public schools is selected to participate in Student Weight Status Category Reporting. All public-school districts outside New York City are required to report at least once in a two-year period. A list of school districts selected to report for the 2021-2022 school year is included with this letter and available through the New York State Center for School Health (NYSCSH) website at <http://www.schoolhealthny.com>. If your district is not on the list, you can anticipate reporting during the 2022-2023 school year.

Student weight status category information should be collected from the health examination forms collected the prior school year, **2020-2021**. School districts selected to report for the **2021-2022** school year should submit the information from health examination forms for students who were in grades **Pre-K, K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11** during the **2020-2021** school year. School nurses should collect, tally and submit information to the School District Nurse Coordinators, who should aggregate the information for their entire district. School District Nurse Coordinators will report weight status data using the Health Commerce System.

Due to students participating in remote learning and other factors associated with COVID19, schools may not have been able to collect health certificates from all enrolled students. Please report the weight status category data from the health examination forms you were able to receive during the 2020-21 school year. To help us understand the impact of missing health examination forms on weight status reporting, School District Nurse Coordinators should also record the number of students enrolled in 2020-21 in reportable grades who were missing a health examination form.

Current school building and school district tally sheets and guidance documents can be accessed through the New York State Center for School Health (NYSCSH) website at <http://www.schoolhealthny.com>, under the Section "Data Reporting." Trainings and Webinars will occur throughout the fall of 2021 to address questions about reporting through the Health Commerce System.

All Student Weight Status Category Surveys must be submitted via the Health Commerce System by **Friday, January 28, 2022**. Failure to complete and submit the survey is a violation of Education Law. Surveys are subject to audit by the Commissioner of Health. Your participation in the annual student weight status category reporting is appreciated. If you have questions, please contact Sherry Brown, at (518) 473-7817.

Sincerely,

Barbara Wallace, M.D., M.S.P.H
Director, Division of Chronic Disease Prevention